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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/819,071	10/09/2001	Joerg Giesler	658/49678CO	7493

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Washington, DC 20044-4300

EXAMINER

SOOHOO, TONY GLEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1723

DATE MAILED: 06/13/2003

11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/819,071

Applicant(s)

GIESLER ET AL.

Examiner

Tony G Soohoo

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-17 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 7.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Europe on 13 October 2000. ***Claim Objections***
2. Claims 4-17 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim 3. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 4-17 not been further treated on the merits.

No indication of patentable subject matter upon the claim(s) has been made.

3. Claims 1-17 are objected to because of the following informalities: In parent claim 1, there is a penciled change to line 3, in the claim with a circle about "particularly caoutchouc, (with additional unreadable written text)" and an arrow pointing to line 2. This is not a formal change. The application is objected to because of alterations which have not been initialed and/or dated as is required by 37 CFR 1.52. . Appropriate correction is required. It is suggested that applicant resubmit the grammatical change of position of the phrase "particularly caoutchouc".

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
5. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which

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applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 recites the limitation "the pumping medium" in lines 5-6,. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 1579001 (DE '001, also FR 1494681, same patent family).

The DE '001 teaches a system comprising a gear pump 27, 28, and a screw type extruder for delivering material, comprising a screw 4, a screw casing 1,3, the screw-type extruder being arranged in front of the gear pump 27, 28, viewed in the delivery of direction of the pumping medium whereby the extruder is located upstream of the gear pump, characterized in that the screw casing 1, 3 has a conical part as seen in the forward portion of the casing from the hopper 5 in the direction of the flow of material to the gear pumps, and the screw 4 has at least one tapering in the area of the conical part of the housing, and that the screw 4 is axially displaceable in the screw casing 1,3 which may produce a controlled feeding of pressure of fed material into the gear pump.

With regards to claim 2 note that the taper is on the gear-pump-side end of the screw extruder 4 as opposed to the hopper end 5.

With regards to claim 3 not that the taper of the screw increased as viewed in the delivery direction of the material so that it tapers to a smaller section.

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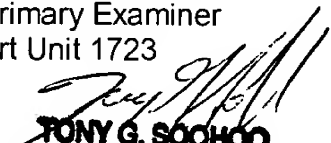
Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following discloses screw extruders which feed into a gear pump: Marshall 2767437, Marin 5182066, Ikegami 6468067, Jones et al 4461734, Seta et al 6488490, Shimizu 4890996, Fritsch 3649147, Chu et al 6306323, Groleau 5863485, Gayler 2692405, Gohlisch et al 5304053 and 5378415, Boden 5310256. The following discloses screw extruders which is axially displaceable: Sutter 3595533 and 3552722, Hendry 315681, Koch et al 3876188, Burpulis et al 3865354, Pointon 4907891.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tony G Soohoo whose telephone number is (703) 308-2882. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Tues. - Fri.. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9310 for regular communications and (703) 872-9311 for After Final communications. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

tgs

Tony G Soohoo
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1723



TONY G. SOOHO
PRIMARY EXAMINER